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A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for

1960.

including



Report of the Port Health Inspector

by

T. D. BLOTT, B.Sc., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and the Councillors of the
Borough of Maldon.

Mr, Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my seventh annual report
on the sanitary condition of the Port of Maldon,
covering the year ended 31st December 1960.

During the year your Port Health Inspector
attended the conference of Sea and Air Port
Health Authorities at Southampton.

Regular sampling has been carried out at
the Oyster Cleansing Plants at West Mersea and
conditions there are satisfactory. There have
been no proved cases of infection from consumption
of West Mersea oysters during the year.

Once again I am indebted to your Port Health
Inspector for the efficient way in which he has
carried out his duties.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T.D. Blott,

Medical Officer of Health.

MALDON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Comprising the Borough of Maldon, Maldon Rural District, West Mersea Urban District and Lexdon and Winstree Rural District.

His Worship the Mayor - Alderman. C. Dowsett, J.P.,

Aldermen Mrs. E.F. Brewster, C.C., D.R. Cargill, E.C. Dines, J.P. D.T.K. Tonkin.

Councillors. F.W. Brewster, Mrs. M. Brown, Mrs. O.L. Cruess, R.A. Dyke, B. Emery, R.S. Foreman, W.G. Ginn, S. Hardy-King, Rev. W.A. Harling, W.S. Hutchinson, Mrs. W.R. Keeble, J.P., A. Lloyd, R.B. Pitt, A. Richardson and A.E. Woodward.

SECTION I STAFF

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held.
K.C. Robertson	Clerk	1st August 1947	Solicitor and Town Clerk	Town Clerk Borough of Maldon.
Dr.T.D.Blott	Medical Officer of Health	1st March 1954	B.Sc. M.B. B.S. D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Maldon.
R.A. Hallett	Port Health Inspector	25th September 1950	Cert. S.I.J.B. M A P.H.I.	Public Health Inspector. Borough of Maldon.
C.F. Hunt	Treasurer.	1st January 1944	Borough Treasurer	Treasurer Borough of Maldon.

SECTION 11 - Amount of shipping entering the district during the year.

TABLE B

Ships From	Number	Tonnage.	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Public Health Inspector.	
Foreign Ports	55	24,382	2	22	Nil
Coastwise	142	9,128			Nil

SECTION 111 - Character of shipping and trade during the year.

TABLE C

PASSENGER TRAFFIC	(Number of Passengers	INWARDS	Nil
	(Number of Passengers	OUTWARDS	Nil
<hr/>			
CARGO TRAFFIC	(PRINCIPAL IMPORTS	Timber, Wheat, Live Eels	
	(PRINCIPAL EXPORTS	Wheat.	
<hr/>			
PRINCIPAL PORTS	London, Colchester, White Sea, Baltic and		
from which ships	Norwegian Ports and Rotterdam.		
arrive.			

SECTION IV - Inland Barge Traffic
Nil

... 4 - ...

SECTION V - Water Supply.

(1) a&b For the Port. Water from the local supplies is obtained at the various Creeks for barges. The chief supplies are obtained: At Maldon and Heybridge Basin from the Corporations water mains. At Tollesbury from the public supply. These are all above suspicion.

(2) Analysis of Water Samples.

Frequent samples of the public water supply are submitted for bacteriological analysis. These always give results of the highest quality and the Analyst has always expressed himself entirely satisfied with the purity of the public water supply in the Port Health District.

(3) Hydrants & Hose Pipes.

The stand pipe at Heybridge Basin is efficiently maintained and satisfactory. Vessels are expected to provide their own hosepipes.

(4) For Shipping in the River: From a water boat from Brightlingsea in the Colchester Port District. There is only one water Boat. The sanitary condition of this vessel is satisfactory.

SECTION VI - Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

(i) List of Infected Areas.

The list is maintained at the office of the Port Health Inspector. It is amended as and when the circumstances demand and copies are supplied to H.M. Customs Officers and local pilots.

(2) Radio Messages.

No arrangements or facilities exist for the receipt or transmission of messages by radio.

(3) Notifications Otherwise than by Radio.

Any such notifications from inward vessels would be given to the pilots or Officers of Customs and then passed to this authority.

Upon such information being received inward ships are immediately boarded by an Officer of the Authority.

MOORING STATIONS

(a) There are no docks in which a suitable mooring station could be designated.

(b) An outside mooring station has been designated near the mouth of Bradwell Creek.

(c) In view of the extreme difficulty of rapid communication with vessels moored in the lower part of the estuary, the Customs Officers have been instructed to allow of boarding or leaving the ship, where the declaration of health and all other circumstances are satisfactory.

(5) Arrangements for:

(a) Hospital accommodation for Infectious Diseases is available at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Chelmsford.

(b) Local Surveillance is maintained by Officers of the Authority. Information concerning Contacts in other areas is forwarded to the responsible Authority.

(c) There are no special arrangements for the Cleansing or disinfection of ships. Persons, clothing and other articles would be landed and arrangements made for the cleansing as required.

SECTION VII- Smallpox.

- (1) The North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board are responsible for the treatment of persons suffering from Smallpox and provide hospital accommodation, as and when required.
- (2) Ambulance facilities are provided by the Essex County Council, who are responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.
- (3) Dr. J. D. Kershaw, Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Colchester.
- (4) No special arrangements have been made for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox.

SECTION VIII - Venereal Disease.

Facilities exist for the treatment of both out and in-patients at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester. Out-patient treatment is available as follows:-

Mondays;	Males	6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
	Females	5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Fridays;	Males	3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
	Females	2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

It has not been considered necessary to take any special steps to make this information known to seamen.

SECTION IX - Cases of Notifiable and other
infectious diseases on ships.

Table D.

NIL.

If any such cases or suspected cases are reported the crew are required to remain aboard and no contact with the shore is permitted except by the boarding of the ship by the pilot or the Officers of Customs until the circumstances have been fully investigated and all members of the crew have been medically examined.

SECTION X - Observations on the Occurrence
of malaria in ships.

NIL.

SECTION XI - Measures taken against ships
infected with or suspected for plague.

No special measures in this connection have been thought necessary in the past.

SECTION XII - Measures against rodents in
ships from foreign ports.

- (1) Deratization or Deratization Exemption certificates of vessels inspected are examined. Foreign-going vessels very rarely lie at quays and no trouble has ever been experienced with regard to rodents.
- (2) No special arrangements have been made for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rodents and none have been sent for such examinations during the year.
- (3) There are no facilities in the Port for the deratization of ships.
- (4) No special measures of rat-proofing have been found necessary.

Table E

NIL.

Table F.

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption
Certificates issued during the year for ships
from foreign ports.

NIL.

SECTION XIII - Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

Table G.

Inspection and Notices.

Nature and Number of Inspections.	Notices Served.		Result of serving Notices.
	Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
Crew accommo- dation. 24	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Galley and Food store. 24	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total. 48	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

SECTION XIV - Public Health (Shellfish)
Regulations 1934 and 1945.

WEST MERSEA OYSTER FISHERIES.

The unsatisfactory conditions which gave rise to a number of enquiries from about 1948 onwards came to a head in 1958 and in November of that year the Authority accepted a recommendation that an order should be made under these Regulations prohibiting the taking of oysters from the River Blackwater unless they are cleansed prior to being offered for sale.

This Order came into force on 1st April 1959 and since that date a number of approved Cleansing plants have been established, several at West Mersea and one at Maldon. These have worked very satisfactorily and operate on the basis of using ultra-violet light as a means of sterilisation.

The oyster fishermen are endeavouring to raise the whole standard of the fishery and it is hoped that these combined measures will create an entirely satisfactory state of affairs.

SECTION XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens (Not APPLICABLE)

SECTION XVI - Miscellaneous.

Dead bodies would be landed at Maldon or Heybridge, and removed to the Mortuary at Chelmsford prior to burial.

